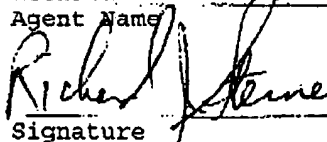


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Cottone et al.
Serial No. : 09/862,690
Filed : May 22, 2001
For : SELF-EXPANDING STENT
Examiner : Sarah K. Webb
Group Art Unit : 3731

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OCT 04 2006

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8	
I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the date indicated below at the facsimile number 571-273-8300.	
Richard J. Sterner Agent Name	35,372 PRO Reg. No.
 Signature	October 4, 2006 Date of Signature

Attention: Examiner Sarah K. Webb

Group Art Unit: 3731

Facsimile No.: 571-273-8300

No. of Pages: 21

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Sir:

This is in response to the final Office Action mailed April
5, 2006 and serves as the substantive response required in
connection with the Request for Continued Examination being

submitted concurrently herewith. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks following.

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PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

OCT 04 2006

Applicants hereby request a three-month extension of time extending the time for response from July 5, 2006 up to and including October 5, 2006. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the required \$1,020 extension fee to Deposit Account No. 23-1703. Any other fee which may be due for any reason in connection with this Petition may likewise be charged.